

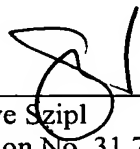
REMARKS

With the above amendment, the specification has been amended to incorporate the European priority application 02080612.1 by reference.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in good condition for examination. Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.



Joerg-Uwe Szipl
Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.
Suite PH-1
2300 Ninth Street, South
Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429
Email: g&s@szipl.com
Customer No.: 24203